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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 86SOFIA3382, ROUND-UP OF BULGARIAN TURKS

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#86SOFIA3382**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
86SOFIA3382	1986-08-11 11:49	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Sofia

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.bivol.bg>

R 111149Z AUG 86
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5906
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 03382

SIPDIS

E.O. 12356: OADR
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PINR](#) [BU](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: ROUND-UP OF BULGARIAN TURKS

REF: (A) SOFIA 3356, (B) SOFIA 3170

¶1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

¶2. EMBOFF CALLED AUGUST 8 ON XXXXXXXXXXXX, TO SEEK CONFIRMATION OF AND ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON A REPORTED RECENT ROUND-UP AND ARREST OF ETHNIC-TURKISH BULGARIANS (REF A). WITHOUT REFERENCE TO REF A REPORT, EMBOFF STEERED DISCUSSION OF OTHER TOPICS (SEPTELS) AROUND TO WHETHER THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN RECENT WEEKS REGARDING BULGARIAN TURKS. IN HIS RESPONSE, XXXXXXXXXXXX MADE NO REFERENCE TO A SUDDEN WAVE OF ARRESTS.

¶3. IN FURTHER CONVERSATION, XXXXXXXXXXXX DID REFER TO BULGARIAN TURKS RECENTLY RELEASED FROM BELENE ISLAND

PRISON AND THEN EXILED TO KYUSTENDIL AND VRATSA (EVIDENTLY THE CASES ALSO MENTIONED BY SOURCE OF REF A). HE SAID THAT NO SPECIFIC TERM OF YEARS FOR SUCH EXILE HAD BEEN STATED. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION OF WHETHER BULGARIA WAS PURSUING A POLICY OF RESETTLING SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF ETHNIC TURKS, XXXXXXXXXXXX INDICATED HIS BELIEF THAT SUCH FORCED RESETTLEMENTS ON A LIMITED SCALE HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT SINCE EVEN BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE 1984-85 NAME-CHANGING CAMPAIGN. HE SAID THAT ON A 1985 TRIP TO XXXXXXXXXXXX, HE WAS TOLD BY ETHNIC TURKISH CONTACTS THAT TWO HUNDRED FAMILIES (PROBABLY 800-1000 PEOPLE) HAD BEEN UPROOTED FROM THE TURKISH QUARTER OF THAT CITY AND RESETTLED ELSEWHERE. HE HAD BEEN SHOWN THE VACANT HOUSES OF SOME OF THE FAMILIES INVOLVED. HE ALSO REFERRED TO A MORE RECENT CASE OF A YOUNG ETHNIC TURK WHO, ALONG WITH OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, WAS FORCIBLY RESETTLED FROM THE PLOVDIV AREA AFTER ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT THE TURKISH CONSULATE IN PLOVDIV.

¶4. COMMENT. XXXXXXXXXXXX DIRECT CONTACT WITH ETHNIC TURKS WORKING INVOLUNTARILY OUTSIDE THEIR PLACE OF ORIGIN REMAINS LIMITED TO TWO CASES (REF B). THUS ALTHOUGH A POLICY OF RESETTLING ETHNIC TURKS, ESPECIALLY "TROUBLE-MAKERS," IS PLAUSIBLE AND WAS INDEED THREATENED IN A 1985 INTERVIEW GIVEN BY BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES CHAIRMAN ANGEL BALEVSKI, WE CANNOT YET CONFIRM THAT SUCH A POLICY HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN MORE THAN POSSIBLY ISOLATED CASES. A CURRENT SERIES OF TRIPS BY EMBOFFS TO "NON-TURKISH" REGIONS OF BULGARIA MAY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO INQUIRE WHETHER ANY MOVEMENT OF ETHNIC TURKS HAS OCCURRED.

¶5. XXXXXXXXXXXX

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